



## A Christmas Present for Tom Haavisto VE3CX



Congratulations Tom on your fine work!



**LARC SENATE**

Keith Fiske VE3JQ  
Pat Doherty VE3PD  
Dave Kimpton VE3AVS  
Laurie Bridgett VE3BCD  
Terry Stewardson VA3LU  
Ed Baumann VE3SNW

**LARC EXECUTIVE**

**President:**

Randy Gottfred VA3OJ

**Vice President**

Joe Coghlan VE3TBX

**Treasurer**

Paul Curtin VA3PDC

**Secretary**

Jeff Cederwall VE3JTD

**Director**

Lori Bedford VE3VAI

Bill Unger VE3XT

Bob Hanson VE3RVA

**LARC Emergency Coordinator**

Brad Harris VE3MXJ

**ARES District Emergency  
Coordinator**

VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789

**CANWARN**

VA3JMS John 767-3631

VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628

**Public Service Events**

VA3JMS John 767-3631

**Accredited Examiner**

VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789

flesnick@tbaytel.net

**ABOUT US**

The Lakehead Amateur Radio Club (LARC) is an incorporated not for profit group of amateur radio operators in the Thunder Bay area that meet for self education, community service and fellowship. Our meetings are the second Thursday of the month at room 191 McIntyre Building, Confederation College, 7:30 PM. Our postal address is 1100C Memorial Ave. Suite 184, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 4A3. This newsletter is published monthly except for July and August by Ed Baumann VE3SNW and questions and submissions may be emailed to [ve3snw@shaw.ca](mailto:ve3snw@shaw.ca)

**Links of Interest**

[http://www.foxnews.com/scitech/2011/11/17/radio-days-are-back-ham-radio-licenses-at-all-time-high/?cmpid=cmt\\_email\\_Gigya\\_Radio\\_Days\\_Are\\_Back%3A\\_Ham\\_Radio\\_Licenses\\_at\\_an\\_All-Time\\_High](http://www.foxnews.com/scitech/2011/11/17/radio-days-are-back-ham-radio-licenses-at-all-time-high/?cmpid=cmt_email_Gigya_Radio_Days_Are_Back%3A_Ham_Radio_Licenses_at_an_All-Time_High)

<http://www.ksl.com/?nid=148&sid=18335745>

Hi All

The VE4WDR D-Star Gateway is now operational on UHF in Winnipeg! For more information visit <http://www.ve4wdr.org>

73

Mark VE4MAB



**LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS**

VE3YQT(Mount Baldy)147.060 (-600) Phone Patch

VE3TBR (St. Joseph's) 146.820 pl 107.2

442.075 (+5 MHz)**pl 100**

144.390 APRS

VE3UPP Upsala 145.470 (-600)



## 21st Annual Santa Claus Parade

Santa Claus decided that a little snow was in order for the 21st Annual Santa Claus parade held on Nov. 19, 2011. With approximately 4 cm of the white stuff on the ground for Saturday morning, and a cool -5C, it seemed to be the appropriate setting for the parade. With roughly fifty floats and walking groups to line up and get organized, Mark Vaillant VE3MVR, and his support crew in the yard of Ed Baumann, VE3SNW and Karl Hamilton, VE3RRP did a valiant job. Marion Nawrocki VE3MJN and Mike Nawrocki VE3ZG recorded the line up of floats and passed this information on to Norm Bell VE3XRC and Linda Bell VE3XLB at their usual spot assisting the announcers with the description of the parade. Bob Hansen VE3RVA was at his post as the information provider to those looking for their floats. Thanks to all for a job well done. Sorry, no pictures as everyone was too busy at their jobs to catch some of the great floats in the parade.



73

Mike Nawrocki VE3ZG

## Santa Shuffle

The day dawned a bit chilly, but the sun did come out for the annual Santa Shuffle in Thunder Bay. Led off by Merv Halvorsen, roughly a hundred walkers took off, followed by another hundred or so runners a few minutes later. It took only a very short time before the first runner was back off a 5 Km run. The runners reported the track was better than in past years. No problems encountered by the runners and all appeared to have had a good time. Thanks to Bob VE3RVA, Karl VE3RRP, Marion VE3MJN and yours truly Mike VE3ZG for a well run operation.

Happy Shufflers!



# PREZ SEZ

Hello to the multitudes

Here we are in December and the holiday season is upon us. I would like to extend a giant wish to all of you. In our day of political correctness, I would like to wish everyone Season's Greetings and may your new year bring you much joy and peace. It seems our world is getting a little crazy and you never seem to hear a lot of good news these days. So if you can, take a minute to call a friend, a relative or someone that you have not heard from in some time and say hi to them. Sometimes, one simple act of kindness can be very contagious.

Digital comms are really catching on and we here in Thunder Bay have a number of amateurs that have been bitten with the bug. The push is on to get a digital net going here in town and we would like to invite anyone that would like to give it a try, to make the effort to enlist the help of some of the local gurus. I and many others are looking into getting digital stations up and running. Many of the stations are running modest equipment and it seems to work quite well with a little TLC and a whole lot of enthusiasm. You will be able to access the digital world from 2 meters or 70cm. You can also get on HF and use the same programs, the opportunities are endless. So step outside the box and get involved, you will find that there is something that will interest you and push you to the next level.

Last but not least, we are heading into the six months of tough boating. Many of you will be heading out on the roads this winter and you should be prepared to handle emergencies that arise on the road. Take a few minutes before you head out and make sure that you have the necessary clothes and supplies in your vehicle to help you if you have a problem. Many times, we get our gear together for what we think we need but sometimes you might find that you have what someone else needs if you come upon a problem. Blankets are a great help to keep warm or just to throw over someone's shoulders as a comforting gesture. I like to carry a teddy bear that just might make a bad situation a little less frightening to someone little that just needs a good hug and a friend to get them through.

We all have it in our hearts to help out someone that needs it. So if you find a moment to think of others, give a donation in the form of food, money or just volunteer to help out. It does the soul good to feel that you have

had a positive effect on others and you might just get the best present of all, a giant heartfelt THANK YOU.

Best wishes for the holiday season from my family to yours.

Randy  
VA3OJ



Sorry

Minutes of the November meeting not available



## North East Ontario Regional Directors Report for December, 2011



I will dispense with the details of the November Board of Directors meeting as it dealt with administrative issues primarily. I would like to highlight some of the items that are of interest to you.

RAC membership is increasing. Yep you read that correctly. Albeit it's at a small rate but for the last 4 months membership is actually increasing. This is a good trend and suggests Canadian Amateurs realise that RAC will be here for the long haul. Expect more on this in 2012 as continuing to increase membership will be a focus for RAC executive in the New Year.

The Maple Leaf Memberships are also rising and are now in excess of 120. I know these are difficult economic times but these folks have stepped up and said supporting RAC is worth a \$100. If you find it within your means I hope you will consider supporting RAC at this elite level so we can continue to advocate for Canadian Amateurs.

The companies who joined RAC as Corporate Members are now advertising on the RAC web page. You may want to check them out and then visit their web sites.

Our Treasurer, Margaret, VA3VXN announced that RAC will finish the 2011 fiscal year in the black. It has been a while since this happened so it's very good news. Unfortunately for RAC Margaret has decided that she needs to focus more time on her schooling and home life so will complete her term and not seek re-election. If you have financial training and would be willing to volunteer please contact me.

Stephen Mayne, VE3LWX is starting to ramp up in his position as Co-Coordinator of Philanthropy and is building a team to assist him. If you could help with graphics, legal expertise, have experience in philanthropy or fundraising please contact Stephen at [ve3lwx@rac.ca](mailto:ve3lwx@rac.ca).

In the last few weeks I have been active on 30, 20 and 15 Metres with my Elecraft K1 running 3 watts into a homebrew vertical. The band conditions have been GREAT and now have a dozen new countries in the log. I will be sending my QSL's to Nenad at the outgoing RAC QSL bureau for forwarding. Canada Post charges a \$1.75 per card; I will send a dozen to the bureau for less than the price of one.

In the last few days there have been stories on the number of American Amateurs increasing and reaching new highs. The obvious question is "What about Canada?" While talking to Garry, VE6CIA from Red Deer he told me that his group just turned out 21 new Amateurs in Alberta in the last few months. It sounds like we are also attracting new Amateurs in Canada as well. If you or your club has Amateur classes let me know.

I hope to work you in the RAC Winter Contest on December 17<sup>th</sup>. Good luck.

Finally on behalf of Rita, and me, we would like to wish each of you all the best this Christmas season. Hopefully you will get a few moments to spend some time in front of your rig and enjoy the good conditions. Merry Christmas and all the best in 2012.

If you have any questions or concerns please email me at [ve3xt@rac.ca](mailto:ve3xt@rac.ca).

Bill VE3XT  
North East Ontario Regional Director  
Radio Amateurs of Canada

## RAC Winter contest on Dec 17

[http://www.rac.ca/en/rac/programmes/contests/files/2011\\_Canada\\_Winter\\_Contest\\_Rules\\_English\\_and\\_French.pdf](http://www.rac.ca/en/rac/programmes/contests/files/2011_Canada_Winter_Contest_Rules_English_and_French.pdf)



**Lakehead Amateur Radio Club**

**November Treasurers Report**

**Balance November 01 2011      \$572.18**

***Income***

Nov 12	Dues and 50/50 (\$10.50)	\$325.50
Nov 30	Transfer from trailer acc't	\$33.08

**Total Income      \$358.58**

***Expenses***

Nov 01	Water for Hymers and office supplies	\$27.57
Nov 01	Telephone YQT	\$170.39
Nov 10	Trailer (propane)	\$12.75
Nov 10	Trailer (tarp)	\$20.33
Nov 10	Telephone cell	\$0.57
Nov 30	Charges	\$2.00

**Total Expenses      \$233.61**

**Balance on hand October 31 2011      \$697.15**

<b>Trailer Account</b>		
	<b>Previous Balance</b>	<b>\$516.72</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Oct 31	Interest	\$0.04
<b>Expenses</b>		
Nov 30	Transfer to main acc't	\$33.08
	<b>Balance in Trailer Account</b>	<b>\$483.68</b>

Paul Curtin VA3PDC  
LARC Treasurer



# December 2011

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
<b>Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from the LARC!</b>			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 LARC Meeting	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 RAC Winter Contest	18
19	20	21	22 Winter Solstice 0530 UTC	23	24	25 Christmas Day 
26 Boxing Day	27	28	29	30	31	New Years Day